Under the NRHM, the services provided under the RCH Programme will be strengthened through:

- Implementation of Janani Suraksha Yojana (JSY) under which cash incentives are provided to pregnant women belonging to families Below Poverty Line (BPL) if they deliver at a health center/hospital.
- Appointment of Accredited Social Health Activist (ASHA) for every village with a population up to 1000. ASHA will facilitate in accessing health care services to the community and will have specific responsibility of mobilizing pregnant women for antenatal care, institutional delivery and post-natal checks and immunization to children.
- Operationalising 2000 Community Health Centers as First Referral Units (FRU) for providing emergency Obstetric and Child Health services.
- Making 50% Primary Health Centers functional for providing 24-hours delivery services, over the next five years.
- Ensuring quality of services by implementing Indian Public Health Standards (IPHS) for Primary Healthcare Facilities.
- NGOs are being actively involved under the Mission. Funds are provided to the States for appointing Mother NGOs and Field NGOs in each district of the country in order to provide services in the underserved and unserved areas of these districts.

Over dose of vitamin A under NPPNB

2976. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 70 million children below three years are being given extremely high dose of Vitamin A under National Programme for Prevention of Nutritional Blindness which can cause toxicity and lead to weak bones; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to prevent adverse effect of 66,000 mcg of Vitamin A against recommended dietary allowance of (RDA) of 400 mcg. per day?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) No Sir. Under the Reproductive and Child Health Programme, 5 doses of Vitamin A are given to children below three years. The first dose at 9 months is 1,00,000 IU followed by 4 doses of 2,00,000 IU once every six months. This regime is considered totally safe.

(b) 66,000 mcg. or 2,00,000 IU given every six months is totally safe. The recommendation of 400 mcg (1333 I.U.) is on a daily basis.

Schools for training medical professionals

2977. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to set up schools at different locations to train medical professionals;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the schools will be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) The Government proposes to support the Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI) in setting up of world class Institutes of Public Health in India to impart highest quality of public health education in the country. The exact number of Institutes has not yet been decided. PHFI is in the process of working out the detailed modalities for setting up the institutes, including site selection for building the Institutes. PHFI will become functional this year and the first Indian Institute of Public Health is likely to be commissioned by PHFI in 2008.

AIIMS like institute in Himachal Pradesh

2978. SHRI BASHISTHA NARAIN SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering any proposal to set up an AIIMS like institute for the State of Himachal Pradesh under Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY) to cater to the needs of lakhs of people in the State as such institutes have been proposed for various other States;